The Parkies

What we heard

Be knowledgeable clients

- This is a rapidly changing field so…
- Need internal capacity to be knowledgeable clients – not a simple matter of transferring rigid protocols
- Must know the strength and weakness of the various sensors relative to park uses
- Opportunities for shared training

Data Generalizations

- Focus on operational vs research platforms
- Need sensor and measure redundancy (balanced by parsimony)
- The effort required for proper data management shouldn’t be underestimated (mass storage, catalog/search/retrieval)
- Don’t ignore the opportunities provided by coarse resolution sensors
- Take advantage of products already being produced
- Don’t ignore the short wave (swirness)

Managing the Process

Methods will require ongoing adaptation/flexibility

- Opportunities exist for cross-border efficiencies
- Parks can improve the context for EO with well-organized ancillary data
- National EO agencies focus in national and international scales – resulting errors at the park scale are key to understanding usefulness
- Opportunities for public and within-agency education (managers, interpreters, etc.)

Agreed upon EO measures Climate Change

- NDVI – from a range of sensors (Spot Vegetation, AVHRR, MODIS))
  - Season start, end, length, amplitude, peak, area under the curve (seasonal greenness)
  - May not be suitable for the tropics, sparse vegetation or complex terrain
  - Snowmelt as confounding problem re: can be confused with green-up)
- GLIMS group for glacier recession (Jeff Kargel – USGS Flagstaff)
- GRIP proposal for Arctic icecaps (Mike Demuth – GSC)

Agreed Upon EO Measures
NP Productivity

- Still in research phase, but very promising
- May be not a monitoring tool, but an integration, synthesis and interpretation tool (US position)
- Need to resolve ground measurement issues and integration with LTEMPs

Agreed Upon EO Measures Vegetation Cover

- Focus on outputs from “equivalent” methods and technologies
- Need to plan for merging bottom up with top down classifications, prior to mapping
- CNVC /NatureServe ---- FGDC Formations (check out FAO classification – John Lantham?)
- Change detection will be coarse scaled and not consistent with plant association mapping
- Combine high-frequency coarse change detection with longer-term higher resolution data

Agreed Upon EO Measures Landscape Pattern / Disturbance

- Need a combination of coarse and fine filter approaches (species specific)
- PCA Coarse approaches include (GRIP will check):
  - Change detection – loss
  - Road length per class
  - Fragmentation - Fractal dimension, number of patches, continuity
- NB -The Yanks have some issues here?